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Conflict and Resolution Film Series at USD

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CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION FILM SERIES AT USD

Director discusses highlighted hotspots

The University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice will host director John Michalczyk for a free four-film symposium beginning Friday, April 25, and continuing Saturday, April 26.

Each documentary looks at a separate conflict and chronicles the attempts to bring peace to troubled regions. The films show the symbiotic relationship that religion and politics share in specific societies (Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Croatia, South Africa, and Israel). A discussion with Michalczyk, Father Raymond Helmick, S.J., (a noted mediator in all four regions highlighted in these films) and other distinguished panelists will follow each film. The films will screen at the Institute theatre and are free and open to the public.

The symposium begins April 25 at 9:30 a.m. with "Out of the Ashes: North Ireland's Fragile Peace," a look at "The Troubles" from personal and historical viewpoints. The conflict is traced from the mid 1960s to present day; the film was shot on location in Ireland.

At 7:30 p.m., "Prelude to Kosovo: War and Peace in Bosnia and Croatia" depicts the civil war in the former Yugoslavia and addresses the quest for political, cultural and religious domination.

On April 26, films begin at 9:30 a.m. with "South Africa: Beyond a Miracle." The series concludes with the 6 p.m. premiere of "Israel: The Peacemakers." Each film and discussion is followed by a reception.

Filmmaker Michalczyk is the director of the film studies program and of the Jacques Salmanowitz Program for Moral Courage in Documentary Film at Boston College.

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